Private

Metropolitan Hotel
Washington
March 4. 1872

My dear Bowles

I examined a day or two since, the Bullion assays at the Treasury Department & find that the New York Assay Office bars, which sent to the Coast, average only about 990½ - Can therefore see what it would cost to refine these bars, by the sulphur process, to 998 & only the Assay Office does not do it. If it can be done at a profit -

The Assay Office people have through

the Edelmans Acts
in pursuance data for
the Journal of Commerce
put themselves in
position for a severe
castigation when the
next Bill comes
up in the House,
and much of their
boasting about defeating
Civil be latter done.—

There is a disposition
here to appropriate say
ten or fifteen thousand
dollars to the daughter
of the Poet.—

The Item for the
Torreys Salary put up to
$4500 & Edelman blowed
his up to the same point
in the House, but the
Senate struck it out

Mr Underwood, the Democratic
Chairman of the Committee on Claims
reported a bill allowing to Mrs Torrey
the widow of the late Professor Torrey
the botanist, the sum of $3700, with
the intention to thereby amend and
increase the salary
of Prof. Torrey from $1500 to $5000
per annum.

Mr Underwood, in reporting this
bill, stated that Prof. Torrey
was one of the most eminent
botanists in the country
which fact
Mr Underwood